

Hexham Rural Sanitary Authority.

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R E P O R T

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

ON THE

SANITARY CONDITION

OF THE

HEXHAM RURAL SANITARY DISTRICT

WITH

TABULAR RETURNS OF MORTALITY, &c.,

*DURING THE YEAR 1895,*

BY

R. BOUSTEAD, I.R.C.P.E., I.R.C.S.E., D.P.H., &c.

*Fellow of Society of Medical Officers of Health,*

*Medical Officer of Health, Hexham and Haltwhistle*

*Rural Sanitary Districts.*

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**TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL REPORT**

**1895.**

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Hexham:

C. ARMSTRONG, PRINTER & STATIONER, MARKET PLACE.

1896.



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# PAROCHIAL COMMITTEES.

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At a Meeting of the Hexham Rural District Council, held on the 8th day of January, 1895, it was resolved—

“That the Parish Council, where there is one, and the Parish Committee, where there is no Parish Council, with the addition in both cases of the District Councillor, or Councillors, for the Contributory Place, be the Parochial Committees.”

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The following Townships have Parish Councils :

ACOMB.	HEXHAM LOW QUARTER.	PRUDHOE CASTLE.
ALLENDALÉ.	HORSLEY.	SANDHOE.
BROOMLEY.	HUMSHAUGH.	SHOTLEY LOW QUARTER.
CHOLLERTON.	MICKLEY.	SIMONBURN.
CORBRIDGE.	NEWBROUGH.	SLALEY.
ELTRINGHAM.	OVINGHAM.	WALL.
HAYDON.	OVINGTON.	WARDEN.
HEDLEY.	PRUDHOE.	WYLAM.

# REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

TO THE

## HEXHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

For the Year 1893.

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GENTLEMEN,

I again beg to lay before you the following Annual Report, which gives the returns for the whole of the Year. The Tables are prepared for the Deaths, Births, and Infectious Diseases, one for each separate Sub-District, and one for the whole District combined. The numbers are given shortly below, but will in each case be entered more fully into in the Tables, and further on. The

AREA of the whole district comprises 200,977 Acres, and is divided into sub-districts as follows, viz :—

ALLENDALE SUB-DISTRICT, with an area of 51,808 acres ;

BYWELL SUB-DISTRICT, with an area of 50,547 acres ;

CHOLLERTON SUB-DISTRICT, with an area of 50,794 acres ;

HEXHAM SUB-DISTRICT, with an area of 47,828 acres.

The POPULATION of the whole of the District being estimated at 27,792, and the number of

DEATHS being 397, is at the rate of 14·1 per thousand ; of

BIRTHS there has been 743, and of

INFECTIOUS DISEASES there has been 122

TABLE I.

Table of Deaths from all causes for the Bywell Sub-District.

DISEASE.	BETWEEN MONTHS.												BETWEEN YEARS.												Totals
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	5	15	25	35	45	55	65	75	85	95			
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Carcinoma	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Convulsions	2	1	1	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Diarrhoea	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Enteritis	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	1	1	3	2	3	4	1	1		
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Gastric	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	2	3	2	1	1	...	...	...		
Head	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Heart	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Injuries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Kidneys	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Liver	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Paralysis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Peritonitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	6	...	1	2	...	...	...	...		
Phthisis	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	2	1	2	...	...	6	...	...	4	4	2	...	3	...	...	...		
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Premature Birth	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Spinal	...	1	1	2	1	...	1	...	1	1	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Tabes Mesenterica	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Typhoid Fever	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Old Age	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Others	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Totals	18	8	4	2	4	2	1	6	2	6	3	...	15	7	14	11	10	12	24	21	23	7	200		

TABLE II.

Table of Deaths from all causes in the Allendale Sub-District.

DISEASE.	BETWEEN MONTHS.												BETWEEN YEARS.												Totals.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	5	15	25	35	45	55	65	75	85	95			
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	2	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	2	...	...		
Carcinoma	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Convulsions	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Diarrhea	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Enteritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Head	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Heart	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	3	6	3	...	...		
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	2	...	...	...		
Injuries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...		
Kidneys	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Liver	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Old Age	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Phthisis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	...	...	...		
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	...	5	1	1	1	3	...	...	...		
Premature Birth	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Paralysis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	...		
Rheumatic Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Whooping Cough	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	2	1	...	...	...		
Others	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Totals	3	...	2	1	3	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	4	2	6	4	6	6	10	19	11	2	82		

TABLE III.

Table of Deaths from all causes in the Chollerton Sub-District.

DISEASE.	BETWEEN MONTHS.												BETWEEN YEARS.										Totals.	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	5	15	25	35	45	55	65	75	85	95		
Bronchitis	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	2	5	...	
Carcinoma	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	
Convulsions	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Diarrhœa	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Gastric	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Head	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	
Heart	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Injuries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Kidneys	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	
Old Age	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Paralysis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Phthisis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Pleurisy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Premature Birth	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	
Spinal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Others	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Totals	5	...	3	1	1	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	3	10	1	6	4	7	16	15	6	81



TABLE IV.

Table of Deaths from all causes in the Hexham Sub-District.

DISEASE.	BETWEEN MONTHS.												BETWEEN YEARS.								Totals	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	5	15	25	35	45	55	65	75		85
Bronchitis	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcinoma	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	2
Convulsions	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Head ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Heart ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Influenza ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Kidneys ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Old Age ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Paralysis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Peritonitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Phthisis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Premature Birth...	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Typhoid Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Others ...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Totals	4	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	1	2	4	2	6	3	34

TABLE V.

Table of Deaths from all causes for the whole of the Districts.

DISEASE.	BETWEEN MONTHS.												BETWEEN YEARS.										Totals.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	5	15	25	35	45	55	65	75	85	95	
Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	28
Carcinoma	..	1	2	1	..	..	..	1	..	2	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	20
Convulsions	3	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Diarrhoea	2	1	2	..	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Enteritis	..	1	..	..	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Erysipelas	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Gastric	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	4	..	2	1	2	..	..	..	2
Head	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	1	1	6	9	15	11	1	15
Heart	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	50
Influenza	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	2	4	3	1	1	2	1	16
Injuries	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	1	1	3	1	..	10
Kidneys	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Liver	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	1	2	1	..	10
Paralysis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Peritonitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	10
Phthisis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	11	5	7	4	3	1	..	..	3
Pleurisy	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	3	..	1	2	..	..	..	37
Pneumonia	..	..	1	1	1	1	..	2	1	2	1	1	6	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Premature Birth	14	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	34
Spinal	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	15
Rheumatic Fever	..	..	..	2	1	..	1	..	1	1	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	3
Tabes Mesenterica	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	10
Typhoid Fever	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	1	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	1	1	..	7	2	1	..	12
Old Age	11	..	2	1	3	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	5	2	..	1	1	2	7	2	1	..	48
Others	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	40
Totals	30	8	9	6	9	2	1	7	2	8	4	1	27	13	26	18	26	26	47	57	55	15	397

TABLE VI.

Table of Infectious Diseases for the Bywell Sub-District.

YEARS							Totals.
Up to & between	5	10	15	25	35	45 & up	
Scarlatina ...	7	11	3	3	..	2	26
Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	1	4	17	22
Typhoid Fever...	1	4	2	5	...	2	14
Continued Fever	1	2	1	1	...	...	5
Diphtheria ...	2	...	1	1	...	1	5
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Totals ...	11	17	7	11	4	23	73

TABLE IIIV.

Table of Infectious Diseases for the Allendale Sub-District.

YEARS							Totals.
Up to & between	5	10	15	25	35	45 & up	
Scarlatina ...	2	1	...	...	...	...	3
Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
Diphtheria ...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Typhoid Fever...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
Totals ...	2	2	...	...	1	3	8

TABLE VIII.

Table of Infectious Diseases for the Chollerton Sub-District.

YEARS.							Totals
Up to & between	5	10	15	25	35	45 & up	
Scarlatina ...	3	9	5	1	...	...	18
Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
Typhoid Fever...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Totals ...	3	9	5	2	...	2	21

TABLE IX.

Table of Infectious Diseases for the Hexham Sub-District.

YEARS.							Totals.
Up to & between	5	10	15	25	35	45 & up	
Scarlatina ...	...	1	1	1	...	...	3
Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
Diphtheria ...	...	...	1	...	1	1	3
Typhoid Fever...	1	...	2	4	2	3	12
Totals ...	1	1	4	5	3	6	20

TABLE X.

Table of Infectious Diseases for the whole of the District.

DISEASE.	YEARS.						Totals.
	5	10	15	25	35	45 & up	
Up to & between							
Scarlatina ...	12	22	9	5	0	2	50
Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	1	4	23	28
Typhoid Fever...	2	4	4	10	3	6	29
Continued Fever	1	2	1	1	...	...	5
Diphtheria ...	2	1	2	1	1	2	9
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Totals ...	17	29	16	18	8	34	122

## BIRTHS.

The following Tables give the Number of Births for each Sub-District, and one for them combined. It will be seen that in the Allendale Sub-District, the number is 107, which is a decrease between this and last year of 18. That of Chollerton is 144, which is a decrease of 14. That of Hexham is 93, which is a decrease of 1. And that of Bywell is 400, which is an increase of 19 between this and last year. The total number being 743, which is a decrease of 15 during the year. Out of the total number, there were 46 illegitimate, which is at the rate of 6·1 per cent. against 6·9 last year.

TABLE XI.

Table of Births for Hexham Sub-District.

Legitimate.		Illegitimate.		TOTAL.	1895.
M	F	M	F		MONTHS.
5	2	...	...	7	January.
1	3	...	...	4	February.
4	2	...	...	6	March.
2	2	2	...	6	April.
2	3	...	...	5	May.
4	7	1	...	12	June.
9	4	..	...	31	July.
5	1	...	1	7	August.
5	5	...	...	10	September.
4	2	...	1	7	October.
3	3	...	1	7	November.
3	5	...	1	9	December.
47	30	3	4	93	

TABLE XII.  
Table of Births for Allendale Sub-District.

Legitimate.		Illegitimate.		TOTAL.	1895.
M	F	M	F		MONTHS.
3	4	...	1	8	January.
3	3	...	...	6	February.
2	5	...	...	7	March.
3	5	2	1	11	April.
8	8	...	...	16	May.
3	2	1	...	6	June.
5	7	...	2	14	July.
4	4	...	...	8	August.
4	4	...	...	8	September.
2	6	...	...	8	October.
2	4	...	...	6	November.
5	4	...	...	9	December.
44	56	3	4	107	

TABLE XIII.  
Table of Births for Chollerton Sub-District.

Legitimate.		Illegitimate.		TOTAL.	1895.
M	F	M	F		MONTHS.
3	2	1	3	9	January.
3	5	1	...	9	February.
4	8	...	...	12	March.
7	4	...	2	13	April.
5	6	...	1	12	May.
4	11	...	...	15	June.
5	3	...	1	9	July.
8	9	...	...	17	August.
8	5	2	...	15	September.
2	9	...	...	11	October.
5	5	...	1	11	November.
8	2	1	...	11	December.
62	69	5	8	144	

TABLE XIV.

Table of Births for Bywell Sub-District.

Legitimate.		Illegitimate.		TOTAL.	1895.
M	F	M	F		MONTHS.
20	20	...	3	43	January.
17	16	...	1	34	February.
5	16	1	...	22	March.
17	19	...	1	37	April.
10	16	...	1	27	May.
22	20	1	1	44	June.
22	20	...	1	43	July.
20	16	...	3	39	August.
11	12	...	2	25	September.
13	24	...	1	38	October.
17	8	...	2	28	November.
11	8	1	...	20	December.
186	194	3	3	400	

TABLE XV.

Total Births with Percentage of Illegitimate.

DISTRICT.	Legitimate.		Illegitimate.		Totals.	Percentage of Illegitimate.
	M	F	M	F		
Bywell ...	186	195	3	16	400	6·7
Chollerton ...	62	69	5	8	144	9·9
Allendale ...	44	56	3	4	107	7·7
Hexham ...	46	39	3	4	92	8·0
Totals ...	338	359	14	32	743	6·2



## INQUESTS AND UNCERTIFIED DEATHS.

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In the whole of the year there has been 18 Inquests held, of which 1 was in the Allendale Sub-District ; 1 in the Hexham Sub-District ; 2 in the Chollerton Sub-District ; 14 in the Bywell Sub-District ; and there has been 9 cases in which the cause of death was of such a nature, that required reporting to the coroner, but in which he did not consider an inquest necessary, and gave a certificate. 4 of these were in the Allendale Sub-District ; 1 in the Chollerton Sub-District ; and 4 in the Bywell Sub-District. Of

Uncertified Deaths, or Deaths which have been returned as cases not having been seen by a medical practitioner at all, there has been 7. 1 occurring in the Chollerton Sub-District, and 6 in the Bywell Sub-District. The causes of death given to the registrar being 1 from Meningitis. 1 from Gastric Catarrh. 2 from Inanition. 1 from Pneumonia. 1 from Premature Birth. 1 from Influenza, Bronchitis, and Pneumonia combined. These Uncertified Deaths are, very fortunately, getting fewer every year. In 1892 there was as many as 32. In 1893 there was 31. In 1894 there was 21, so that the diminution during the last two years has been a very considerable one.

## NUISANCES, &amp;c.

The following Notices have been issued to Owners and Occupiers, during the year, by the Sanitary Inspector —

To Provide proper drainage to premises	...	...	...	36
„ Open out and relay choked drains	...	...	...	8
„ Trap inlets to drains	...	...	...	58
„ Trap waste water pipes	...	...	...	3
„ Cement, pave, and repair defective yard surfaces	...	...	...	25
„ Cleanse, cement, and drain urinals	...	...	...	3
„ Relay floors, and drain stables, byres, and piggeries	...	...	...	6
„ Properly cleanse cesspools, and open channels	...	...	...	6
„ Disconnect rainwater downpipes from drains	...	...	...	3
„ Cease depositing liquid matter into ashpits	...	...	...	3
„ Prevent offensive smell from the boiling of fat, &c.	...	...	...	1
„ Place gullies outside of cellars	...	...	...	3
„ Repair man-hole	...	...	...	2
„ Deposit plans of building in course of erection	...	—	...	3
„ Close inlets to drains in ashpits	...	...	...	4
„ Provide manure pits	...	...	...	3
„ Remedy dampness in dwelling houses	...	...	...	10
„ Repair roofs of dwelling houses	...	...	...	2
„ Provide ventilation for drainage	...	...	...	6
„ Cleanse piggeries, fowlhouses, byres, and stables	...	...	...	5
„ Provide w.c., e.c., or privy accommodation	...	...	...	16
„ Cease depositing ashes and other refuse by the side of main roads	...	...	...	18
„ Remove offensive slaughter house refuse from butcher's premises	...	...	...	3
„ Repair delapidated ashpits and privies	...	...	...	21
„ Cement floors and walls of ashpits and privies	...	...	...	4
„ Ventilate ashpits and privies	...	...	...	8
„ Properly cleanse ashpits and privies	...	...	...	86

„ Remove offensive accumulation of refuse from premises	...	17
„ Spout dwelling houses and buildings	... ..	12
„ Properly cleanse underground sink gullies	... ..	28
„ Connect drains to main sewer	... ..	5
„ Repair water fittings	... ..	5
„ Protect Water Supply	... ..	3
„ Erect privies and ashpits according to the bye-laws	... ..	4
„ Remove privies and ashpits adjoining dwelling houses	... ..	1
„ Lime-wash walls, &c., of premises	... ..	6
„ Cleanse spouts	... ..	1
„ Repair and cleanse flushing tanks	... ..	2
„ Properly cleanse public watering places	... ..	1
„ Provide more light and ventilation to byres	... ..	5
Cases of disinfectants supplied	... ..	70
Schools, dwelling houses, bedding, furniture, &c., fumigated	... ..	11
Drains tested by smoke test and otherwise	... ..	36
Drains found defective	... ..	13
Part of sewers relaid at Corbridge, Wylam, and Newbrough.		
Part of sewers extended at Ovingham, and Horsley-on-Tyne.		

## DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

There are 59 registered Dairies in the Union, 6 of which are new ones this year.

1895.

## PLANS PASSED AT THE FOLLOWING MEETINGS.

*8th January.*

PRUDHOE.—A Plan for converting Two Cottages into a Dwelling House and Shop, in the Main Street, for Mr. Douthwaite, was submitted and approved of.

*2nd April.*

CORBRIDGE.—Plans of additions and alterations to a House at Trinity Terrace, for Mr. Henderson, Anick, were approved. Plans of Three Houses at Trinity Terrace, for Messrs. Robinson and Son, were approved. Plans of alterations and additions to a House, Stables, and Out-buildings, at Orchard House, for Mr. Burns, were approved of. Plans of Eight Houses, at Orchard Place, for Mr. Burns, were submitted and approved of, subject to not being occupied until a certificate of an efficient water supply is obtained from the Sanitary Inspector.

OVINGHAM.—Plans of Six Houses, at Castle View, for Mr. Wilson, St. Ann's Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne, were submitted and approved.

*4th April.*

PRUDHOE.—Plans of Building Sites, and sections of Main Drains, at the East Side, were submitted and approved of, subject to the Main Drain being taken to Murray's Premises.

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*30th April.*

HAYDON BRIDGE.—Plans of a Shooting Lodge, at Brokenhaugh, for Sir James Joicey, were submitted and approved.

RIDING MILL.—Plans of Additions to a Cottage, at Minsteracres, for the Exors. of the late Mr Silvertop, were submitted and approved.

CORBRIDGE.—Plan of a Stable and Cartshed, at the back of Hill Street, for Mr. Wm. Pickering, was submitted and approved.

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*28th May.*

NEWTON.—Plans of Additions to a House and Shop, for Messrs. Amos, were submitted and approved of, subject to an inspection chamber and ventilating shaft being provided in connection with the drainage.

PRUDHOE.—Plans of Six Houses, at Oakfield Terrace, for Mr. Watson, Oakfield House, were approved of, subject to the roofs of the out-offices being lowered.

ACOMB.—Plans of a Villa Residence, at East Oakwood, for Mr. Brown, 254, Westgate Road, Newcastle-on-Tyne, were submitted and approved of.

*25th June.*

STOCKSFIELD.—Plans of a Farmhouse, and Outbuildings, at Lead Hills, for Mr. Little, Merchant, Mickley, were submitted and approved of, subject to the drains being ventilated, and a disconnecting trap put in. Plans of a Cottage, at Hindley Church, for the Trustees, were submitted and approved.

OVINGHAM.—Plans of a Blacksmith's Shop, and Five Cottages, at East End, for Mr. Bigge, were submitted and approved of.

CORBRIDGE.—Plans of Business Premises, Cottage, Stables, and Out-buildings, at St. Helen's Street, for the West Wylam and Prudhoe Co-operative Society, Prudhoe, were submitted and approved of, subject to the drains being ventilated by an air shaft.

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*23rd July.*

WYLAM-ON-TYNE.—Plans of Two Semi-detached Villas, Stables, and Out-buildings, at the West End, for Mrs. Murray, Prudhoe, and Mr. J. Philips, Wylam, were submitted and approved of, subject to the Drainage and Out-offices, being to the satisfaction of the Sanitary Inspector. Plans of Six Houses, at Bridge End, for Major Blackett, were submitted and approved of.

CORBRIDGE.—Plans for Re-building the Wheat Sheaf Inn, and Two Cottages, in St. Helen's Street, for Messrs. Ridley and Cutter, Brewers, Newcastle-on-Tyne, were submitted and approved of. Plans of a Sanitorium, at Corchester School, for Rev. J. A. Scott, were submitted and approved of, subject to a passage being put in between the existing Cottage, and the Sanitorium.

MICKLEY.—Plans of Out-buildings, at the West Side Farm, High Mickley, for Mr. W. H. Battie-Wrightson, Esq., were approved of. Plans of a Wash-house, at East Farm, High Mickley, for the Duke of Northumberland, were submitted and approved.

PRUDHOE.—Plans of Two Cottages, for Messrs. Reay, at the Main Road, were approved of.

HEXHAMSHIRE.—Plans of a new Farmhouse, at White Hall, for Mr. Aydon, Grouse House, were submitted and approved.

OVINGHAM.—Plans of Two Semi-detached Villas, at the East End, for Mrs. Forster, were approved.

*20th August.*

ALLENDALE.—Plans for converting a Blacksmith's Shop into a Dwelling House, at Lane Foot, Catton, for Mr. Dale, were submitted and approved.

ACOMB.—Plans of Two Bedrooms, at the Villa, East Oakwood, near Anick, for Mr. Brown, were submitted and approved. Plans of a Dairy and Scullery, at house occupied by Watson Mews, Acomb, for Mr. Mewburn, were submitted and approved.

NEWTON.—Plans of Out-buildings at Brick House Farm, for Miss Joicey, Newton Hall, were submitted and approved.

PRUDHOE.—Plans of a House, at the West End, for Mr. Lamb, Merchant, Wylam, were approved. Plans of Alterations and Additions to the West Wylam Inn, for Messrs. Ridley, Cutter, and Firth, Brewers, Newcastle-on-Tyne, were submitted and approved, subject to the Urinal being placed in corner of back yard.



OVINGHAM.—Plans of Seven Houses, at Castle View, for Mr. Wilson, St. Ann's Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne, were submitted and approved of, subject to the ventilation of the dressing rooms being done to the satisfaction of the Sanitary Inspector. Plans of the Drainage at the Glebe Farm, for Mr. Bigge, were submitted and approved.

WYLAM.—Plans of re-laying part of the Main Sewer, for the Parochial Committee, were submitted by the Sanitary Inspector, and approved.

MICKLEY.—Plans of Out-buildings, at the Middle Farm, High Mickley, for Mr. Wrightson, were submitted and approved of, subject to the drainage being carried to a point north of Cuddy's Well; the main drain to be relaid in glazed pipes, to the satisfaction of the Sanitary Inspector. Plans of Out-offices to a Cottage, at High Mickley, for Mr. Wrightson, were submitted and approved.

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*15th October.*

STOCKSFIELD.—Plans of a House, on the Painshaw Field Estate, for Messrs. Wakenshaw and Partners, were submitted and approved of, subject to the Out offices being Twelve Feet from the Dwelling House, and no overflow pipe to the cesspit. A Plan of the Painshaw Field Building Sites, was submitted and approved.

SLALEY.—Plans of Alterations and Additions to a Dwelling House, at Colpi's Grange, for Mr. Wear, were submitted and approved of, subject to the Ventilation of Two Bedrooms and Out-offices, being erected to the satisfaction of the Sanitary Inspector.



*12th November.*

ALLENDALE.—Plans of a Villa Residence, at Thornley, near Allendale Town, for Mr. M. Lee, Cullercoats, were submitted and approved of, subject to an Ashpit being built Twelve Feet from the house, and the Three Bedrooms ventilated, to the satisfaction of the Sanitary Inspector.

MICKLEY.—Plans of Urinal, Stable, and Out-offices, at the Blue Bell Inn, Mount Pleasant, for Mr. Bedlington, Brewer, Ovingham, were approved.

OVINGHAM.—Plans of Six Houses and a Shop, at Castle View, for Mr. Wilson, St. Ann's Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne, were submitted and approved of, subject to the Out-offices being placed Twelve Feet from the House, and the Ventilation of the Dressing Rooms done to the satisfaction of the Sanitary Inspector.

STOCKSFIELD.—Plans of a Semi-detached Villa, at Painshaw Field, for Mr. Usher, Sunnyside, were submitted and approved.

*10th December.*

CORBRIDGE.—Plans of Additions to a House at Prior Mains, for Mr. Summers, were submitted and approved of, subject to the bath-room being ventilated.

STOCKSFIELD.—Plans of a Villa Residence, on the Painshaw Field Estate, for Mr. Brewis, Photographer, Newcastle-on-Tyne, were submitted and approved of, subject to no overflow from cesspit to be allowed; an ashpit provided at least Twelve Feet from the Dwelling House. Plans of a Cottage at New Ridley, for Mr. Robson, were submitted and approved of, subject to the Water Supply being satisfactory, before Cottage is occupied. Plans of a Cottage at Hindley Church, were submitted and approved of.

CHOLLERTON.—Plans of a proposed New Sewer, at Colwell Village, were submitted by the Sanitary Inspector, and approved.

In regard to the foregoing Tables, it will be seen there has been 397 Deaths, but there is nothing calling for particular attention as to the causes. There has been no greater Mortality in any particular disease than is usually the case, and certainly the number of Deaths from what is termed the preventable diseases, is a very small one; and, whilst hoping the Death-rate may be still further reduced, the present one of 14.1 cannot but be considered very satisfactory. In regard to the

*Infectious Diseases*—It will be seen there has been a diminution of 81 in the total number between this and last year, the most marked being that of

*Scarlatina*, which disease, although so prevalent, has continued to be of a very mild character, there not having been any Deaths from it during the year. But, through it the Schools at Wylam were closed from January 8th till February 11th, 1895; those at Acomb from September 12th till October 21st and those at Bywell were partially closed on account of a case having occurred at Branch End; all the children living there being debarred attending, from September 20th to October 21st, when no more cases having occurred, they were allowed to return, and there was no further spread. Out of the total of 50, it will be seen 42 are under 15 years old. During the year 1893, there was 158 cases notified, and two deaths; against 50 this year, and no deaths. Thus showing a diminution of 108 in the number of cases reported.

*Diphtheria*.—There has been 18 cases, one fatal. In regard to this disease, as has been said in previous Reports, it seldom occurs except where there is dirty sinks or slopstones, placed in close and ill-ventilated back kitchens, or some dark and ill-ventilated corner, or also dark and ill-ventilated rooms, where there are damp walls, and papered layer over layer. These things are seen, one or more, in so very many of the cases which occur, that I am still of opinion the cause lies there, and

especially in the putrid, greasy, and soapy state of the slop-stone and pipe. In houses where it occurs, the people are being taught this by having it pointed out to them, and how to clean them, and it has been with good results. In all probability, the small number of cases may partially be accounted for by the danger of infection from one child to another being pointed out to the teachers, and the greater care they now take in sending home again, any who may have sore throats, and not allowing them to return, until they are pronounced well. Indeed, it cannot be doubted, there is a much more careful supervision by the teachers in cases of children complaining of slight illness whilst attending school, than used to be the case.

*Typhoid Fever.*—There has been an increase of 18 over that of last year. 5 were cases which had been imported, or, in which the disease had been contracted outside the district altogether, and there was no further spread from any of them. There were 12 cases which occurred within a limited area at Corbridge, and which were confined to 6 houses, in one case 4, another 3, next 2, and 1 each in the other three. The inmates of the house in which the 4 occurred, were removed to the workhouse. The cause to which this was attributed, was an intermittant water supply. The drains were tested, and found slightly defective, principally at the sinks outside the houses altogether. A continuous water supply was obtained, and no more cases have occurred since.

*Whooping Cough.*—There has been a considerable number of cases ; as it is not in the list of Notifiable Diseases, the number cannot be ascertained, but there has been 12 deaths from it, and yet the parents seem to take little or no precaution against exposing their own, or other children, to the infection. Had there been so many deaths from Scarlatina, or Diphtheria, there would have been a panic.

*Measles.*—There has been a considerable number of cases ; this also is not on the Notifiable list. It has, however, been of a very mild

character, most of those affected seem to have ailed very little, and there has been no death from it.

*Influenza* still remains, but not in any great numbers, as far as can be ascertained, scattered all over the district. There has been 8 deaths from it, but, as it also is not on the list of Notifiable Diseases, there is no means of ascertaining the ratio of deaths and recoveries. It will be seen, however, they are all beyond middle life. In considering this class of disease and its prevention, the only means become at once apparent, and these are

*Isolation and Disinfection.*—There is no Isolation Hospital in the District, of which there is a great want, as it is practically impossible to obtain anything like isolation, in the ordinary working man's house, and there is no means for disinfection of clothing, bedding, &c., whatever; and, if the district had an Isolation Hospital, there would be some hope of being able to combat a disease at its commencement by isolating the first cases. In large rural districts such as this, where the villages, hamlets, &c., are some little distance apart, and yet the roads good, the Local Government Board suggest, so as always to be in readiness for such cases, that, if there be no central hospital provided for the whole of the district, certain buildings or houses, such as a four or six-roomed cottage, should be obtained in suitable districts, and at convenient distances, and where a suitable married couple without children, could reside always, and be prepared at any time to undertake the charge of any cases, as they occur, and are sent there. This would go a long way to meet the case, if the Council, after taking it into their consideration, concluded to adopt it, and in this case, better provision could be made for the proper disinfection of the clothes, bedding, &c., and which, as has been pointed out, cannot now be carried out in anything like a satisfactory way.

And also with the view of preventing the spread of infectious diseases, may be mentioned the

*Closure of the Schools.*—And in regard to this, a great deal of care is required to decide, as to whether partial closure will meet the case, or it requires total closure. In many parts of this district, partial closure, even if it would meet the requirements, in preventing the spread of disease, cannot be adopted, because it would reduce the attendance at the school to such a number, that it could not be carried on. Such partial closure was adopted in one case at the Bywell Schools, and was a very favourable one for the purpose, and there was no further spread from it. But there is no question, that in the very greatest majority of the cases in the district, it could not be applied; and in these cases it resolves itself into a question of school attendance, and, where the schools are closed, the children are allowed to run about in a state of infection. Indeed, it cannot possibly be prevented, as there are no means of doing so. Taking cases of Scarlatina as an example, some children are only ill enough for a few days to be confined to the bed, or to the house, and yet are infective for some weeks, and in these cases they cannot be kept in the house, however wishful their parents might be. Also the bread-winners of the house affected must attend to their work, and carry the infection more or less with them, and in this way is easily seen how the disease is spread. This points out the necessity of being able to treat the first, and any succeeding cases, by isolation, and which of course can only be done by having an Infectious Hospital, or some such provision as before mentioned, as would meet the isolation of the first cases of any disease which occurred

*Water Supply.* — Ovingham, Wylam, West Wylam, Ellington, Prudhoe, Prudhoe Colliery, and Mickley Square are all supplied by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company; and the rest of the district is, of course, supplied from various local sources. Taking the



whole of the rural and isolated parts of the district, as a rule, they are fairly well supplied with water, but in many cases it is rather too far to carry, and might be better protected at the wells. In a general way, there is not much danger of pollution from the drainage of out-buildings, or middens, &c. ; but a great deal has been done in regard to remedying the various defections in water supplies.

A fresh supply has been got for Halton North Farm, the old one being defeient.

A part of Wylam, which was supplied by the Company with unfiltered water, is now joined to the filtered main.

The supply to Corbridge has been augmented, and is now a very good one.

There is now under consideration a supply from Roses Bower to Great Whittington, the water having been examined, and found very good.

It is under consideration to extend the Aeomb supply, which comes from Silver Hill and Salmon's Well, to the Forge and neighbourhood.

A new supply for Haydon Bridge is under consideration.

It is also under consideration to get a new supply for Allendale, which is at present supplied from various sources.

The supply at Barrasford is to be augmented, by enlarging or repairing the tank.

The Ovington supply, for the western portion, is under consideration for improvement.

The Ovingham supply, which is not filtered, is under consideration to get a filtered supply from the Company.

It will be in the recollection of the District Council, that a representation was made by the Medical Officer, in regard to the scarcity and quality of the water in the Hedley-on-the-Hill district, and also that of New Ridley, and the Council appointed a committee to report upon it, which was done. They are still in the same state. Slaley is another part of the district which has been mentioned before, as having a very poor supply of water, and, it is said, a good supply for the whole place could be had. If the Council take it into consideration, it would be of great advantage to the village.

There has been 26 samples of water examined, for various reasons. In any case of illness where the water supply might be the cause, it has been in each case examined, but has not been found to be the direct cause, but any defects have been remedied. In 8 of these cases, it was examined as to its being suitable for household use, and was found very good.

*Sewage, Drains, &c.*—The satisfactory disposal of the sewage, in a district such as this, is one of the most difficult problems the Council could have to deal with. That there are few w.c.'s, is in one sense an advantage, as the conveniences being the ordinary privy, compels the utilization of the excreta on the land. At present there is no means of treating the sewage, except by settling tanks and imperfect irrigation, and then getting a more or less lengthy way to the river. The scheme at Mickley Bank, in which it is intended to treat the sewage by some system of irrigation, &c., has not yet been completed, but will be so when the necessary arrangements are made. The drains are in good order, and the sinks and traps are well attended to. During the year a number of traps have been found defective, and have been put right.

*Ashpits and Privies.*—The cleaning out of these is being better attended to. In a great many of the old ones, they are of the old boxed in style, at the privy end, and where the ashes can never get near to, or

cover the matter, and these are always very offensive, and the ashpit has been built uncovered in, and many of them have been made deeper than the surrounding ground. This of course only applies to the old ones, these more recently erected are all covered in, on a level with the surface, and constructed so that the ashes are mixed with the rest, and so a great deal of the offensiveness is avoided. It is proposed to do away with those old ones, and have them reconstructed according to the new byelaws, on a sanitary principle, wherever it is required by their being nuisances. And the nuisance caused by them being uncovered, and the accumulation of liquid at the bottom, cannot then be attributed to the rain getting in, and thus causing it, as is now almost invariably the excuse. There is no doubt the want of being covered in and not being spouted, is in some cases a part the cause of it, but there can be little question, that in a very great many of the cases, liquid of all kinds is put in, which ought not to be. However, with these alterations, this cannot be held out as a convincing cause of it, and greater pressure will be put upon those who have them in an unsanitary state in future.

*Slaughter Houses.*—These have been found generally in a satisfactory state, and any request which has been made to remedy any defect or nuisance, has been complied with. Whitewashing and attention to the general cleanliness of the place, and the disposal of the refuse, is particularly attended to. The number of Slaughter Houses in the district is 60.

*Dairies and Cowsheds.*—These have generally when visited been found in good order, and in a satisfactory state. The sheds have been regularly whitewashed; the dairies and the utensils used in the sale of milk have always been found clean, and anything requiring it has been attended to, on attention having been drawn to it. The total number of licensed Dairies in the district is 59, and of this number 6 are new ones.



*Dwellings.*—There has been during the year plans passed for the erection of 39 dwelling houses; there has been 18 houses condemned as unfit for human habitation, and 13 of these have already been demolished or evacuated, and the remaining 5 are to be so. These are pitmen's houses at Wylam, where, along with Prudhoe, Mickley, and the whole of that part of the district, on both sides of the river, there is a most serious want of houses suitable for a working man and family, and so great is the difficulty in getting a house, that they are often taken long before they are finished. This leads to a great deal of sub-letting, and consequent more overcrowding than would be the case, if houses could be got. It is no doubt one of the most serious questions relating to the health and comfort of a working man, and his family, and, until such times as there are more houses built, there will be a difficulty in dealing with cases, which otherwise would be dealt with. In this district, there is not the dirt, or dirty habits amongst the people generally, which is to be found in most towns, and this makes a wide difference from a health-point of view, in the case of a property being a little over-tenanted. But, if anything could be done by the Parochial Committees discussing the matter at their meetings, so that more houses could be built by whomsoever, it would meet a want, which needs, and will have to be supplied.

I beg to thank the Chairman and the Members of the District Council, for the assistance so kindly given to me, which has been, not only frequent, but of great assistance in my duties; and am very glad to be able to put before them such a favourable report for the year, and hope the mortality will, low as it is, keep getting still less.

I remain,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

R. J. ROUSTEAD.

